**Circulatory System Handout**

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**Main function:**

The circulatory system consists of three independent systems that work together. The systems are the heart, (cardiovascular), lung (pulmonary), and arteries, veins, coronary and portal vessels (systemic). The system is responsible for the flow of blood, nutrients, oxygen, and other gases. It is also responsible for hormones to go to and from cells.

**Organs with in the circulatory system:**

**Blood:**

* An average adult has 5 to 6 quarts of blood, which is made up of plasma, red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets.

**Blood vessels:**

* The system of blood vessels in the human body measure to about 60,000 miles. The network of veins, arteries and blood vessels transport oxygen and nutrients to the body’s cells and then returns deoxygenated blood back to the heart.

**Heart:**

* The heart is a muscular organ with four chambers. Located behind and slightly left of the breastbone, it pumps blood through the network of arteries and veins. The arteries and veins are called the cardiovascular system.

**Organs working together:**

The organs work together by having the lungs allow oxygen into the body by inhaling air it goes to the bloodstream (into deoxygenated blood) as well as releases gaseous waste such as carbon dioxide. The oxygen carries the blood in the blood vessels to all the cells, tissues, and organs of the body.

**Questions:**

1. What are the three organs in the circulatory system?
2. How many quarters of blood does an adult have?
3. How long do the vessels in the human body measure out to?

